

CHAMPARAN BUTTERFLIES—NORTH BIHAR

BY

A. C. HARMAN

Before I left India some three years ago I had been making for many years a survey of the butterflies of the district of Champaran — but I do not think that I could have exhausted all the species to be found there. To the north of Champaran is the forest belt (Bettiah Raj and Ramnagar Raj) which is about 90 miles in length and about 10 miles deep. This borders on to the Nepal Terai and is separated from it by the Gandak River. The Himalayan foothills start here and rise to about 500 ft. at Treveni. Treveni Hill in Nepal must be about 3,000 ft. Thirty miles east of Treveni is Samashwa, where there is a dak bungalow at 2,800 ft. Beyond the ridge one can get a most gorgeous view of the Nepal hill ranges and snows.

I had not the facilities for exploring the jungles at all seasons of the year as it was almost impossible to get there in the rains—so certain butterflies must have been missed. My collecting was done mostly in the months September to May. For the purpose of this list I should divide the butterflies into two groups—those taken in the forest belt and those found in the cultivated area of the district. Stray forest species appeared from time to time in my garden near Bettiah—some 50 miles from the nearest jungle.

Note.—These butterflies are named and listed according to Evans's Identification of Indian Butterflies—2nd edition revised. The specimens are deposited in the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

PAPILIONIDAE

- A1. *Troides helena cerberus* Fd. Found along the Nepal border at Ramgarwa and other places.
- A2. *Tros aristolochiae aristolochiae* F. Common most of the hot weather and rains.
- A3. *Chilasa clytia clytia* L. This form is less common.
 - v. *dissimilis* L. Common form—appears March till December.
 - v. *dissimilima* Evans. Have taken one.
- A4. 1. *Papilio memnon agenor* L. Strays seen and taken at various times.
 - ♀ v. *butlerianus* Roth. One seen on 18-6-'33.
 - ♀ v. *alcanor* Cr. One seen on 14-6-'33.
 - 2. *Papilio helenus helenus* L. One seen and one taken.
 - 3. *Papilio polytes romulus* Cr. Common from March to December.

♀ *v. cyrus* F. One taken by Mr. Gill at Japaha.

4. *Papilio demoleus demoleus* L. Common most of the year.

A5. *Pathysa nomius nomius* Esp. Appears about March and April only.

A6. *Zetides sarpedon sarpedon* L. Mr. Gill took one.

Zetides agammemnon agammemnon L. One worn specimen November '45.

PIERIDAE

B1. *Leptosia nina nina* F. Appears March–April and October–November.

B4. 10. *Pieris canidia indica* Evans. Flies in jungle belt only, November to March.

11. *Pieris brassicae* L. Appears end of January–February, sometimes larvae are in pest form; it is double brooded. Last brood hatches out middle April and disappears at once. I should say it migrates back to the Nepal hills as I have seen them on the road from Nepal, miles from any food plant!

B6. 3. *Delias eucharis* Drury. Common most of the year; Larvae feed on 'ohangi', also on pummalo.

11. *Delias descombesi leucacantha* Fruh. Jungle belt. Flies August till December.

12. *Delias aglaia* L. Strays appear sometimes but mostly flies in jungle belt: October to April.

13. *Delias thysbe pyramus* Wall. Taken in jungle belt, November–December '28.

B8. *Belenois mesentina mesentina* Cr. Appears October–November. Common March till June. Larvae feed on *Capparis* have bred the dark *taprobana* form in June–July.

B9. *Huphina nerissa evagete* Cr. Common most of the year. Larvae feed on *Capparis*.

B10. 2. *Appias lalage lalage* Db. Stray specimens appear only for a day or two in early December evidently migrating from Nepal. Mr. Gill and I each took one on the same day in 1937 at a distance of 70 miles apart. Have only seen males.

4. *Appias libythea libythea* F. Mr. Gill took one at Motihari—June '38.

5. *Appias lyncida hippoides* M. Stray specimens found in the rains.

6. *Appias albina darada* Fd. Stray specimens found in the rains.

B11. 1. *Catopsilia crocale* Cr. Common March till December.

2. *Catopsilia pomona* F. Flies in company of above.
v. catilla. Not too rare.

4. *Catopsilia pyranthe minna* Herbst. Common June to December.
5. *Catopsilia florella gnoma* F. Not common as above.
- B15. 4. *Terias blanda silhetana* Wall. Rare, but took a number of pupae—November 1934.
5. *Terias hecabe hecabe* L. Common.
- B16. 14. *Colias croceus edusina* But. Appears March and April only.
- B19. *Hebomoia glaucippe glaucippe* L. One stray specimen taken at Motihari by Mr Gill—June 1938.
- B20. 3. *Pareronia valeria hippia* F. Common in rains. Breeds August to October. Larvae feed on *Capparis*.
♀ v. *philomela*. Not rare.

DANAIDAE

- C 2. 1. *Danais aglea melanoides* M. Jungle belt. Appears November to April.
9. *Danais limniace mutina* Fruh. Common most of the year.
10. *Danais melissa septentrionis* But. Jungle belt. October to December.
12. *Danais plexippus* L. Common.
15. *Danais chrysippus* L. Very common.
v. *alcippoides* M. } Have seen exam-
v. *dorippus* Cr. } ples of both these,
but not taken.
- C 3. *Euploea mulciber mulciber* Cr. Jungle belt. Strays down to Bettiah during rains: June to October.
7. *Euploea core core* Cr. Very common.
Euploea core vermiculata But. Common.
17. *Euploea klugii klugii* M. One taken September '34.
18. *Euploea crassa kollari* Fd. Rare. Appears in the rains.
Euploea crassa crassa But. One taken by Mr Gill at Japaha.

SATYRIDAE

- D 2. 9. *Mycalesis perseus typheus* Fruh. Appears November to March. Common in the jungle.
10. *Mycalesis mineus mineus* L. Jungle belt. Flies October to March.
12. *Mycalesis visala visala* M. Jungle belt. Gill took them at Japaha.
28. *Mycalesis malsara* M. Jungle belt. Flies in March and April.

- D 3. **Lethe [europa ?]** Examples of this I took many years ago at Ramgarwa, but have never seen it anywhere else. Mr. Inglis had it in his Durbhanga collection.
Lethe confusa confusa One taken at Samashawa (above 3,000 ft.) Nepal border, March 1928.
- D14. 2. **Ypthima inica** Hew. Common March to December.
11. **Ypthima hubneri hubneri** Kirby. Common March to December.
13. **Ypthima avanta avanta** M. Jungle belt. Flies November-December-March.
15. **Ypthima baldus baldus** F. Jungle belt. Flies November-December-March.
- D16. **Orsotrioena medus medus** F. Appears in the rains.
- D22. **Melanitis leda ismene** Cr. Common most of the year.
- D25. **Elymnias hypermoestra undularis** Drury. Jungle belt. Flies October to March.

NYMPHALIDAE

- F 1. 7. **Charaxes fabius fabius** F. Rare. One taken September 1928; one seen 21-4-40.
- F 2. 2. **Eriboea athamus athamus** Dr. Two pupae found on a babul tree December 1928. Not seen flying.
- F18. 3. **Euthalia lepidea lepidea** But. Jungle belt. Appears November to March.
14. **Euthalia garuda suddhodana** Fruh. Common most of the year.
17. **Euthalia lubentina indica** Fruh. Rare. appears February-March, September to December.
28. **Euthalia nais** Forst. Jungle belt. One taken October 1932.
- F24. 7. **Limenitis procris procris** Cr. Jungle belt. September to March; strays taken in Bettiah.
- F.25. 2. **Pantoporia nefte inara** Db. Jungle belt. Two taken March 1928. One ♀ November 1928 and April 1938.
4. **Pantoporia selenophora selenophora** Koll. Jungle belt. One ♀ taken at Samashawa 2,800 ft. March 1926.
14. **Pantoporia perius** L. Jungle belt. Common September to March.
- F26. 1. **Neptis columella ophiana**. Jungle belt. One ♀ taken 2 April 1934 and ♀ April 1937.
6. **Neptis hylas adara** M. Jungle belt. Appears October to April. Some strays taken near Bettiah.
8. **Neptis nandina susruta** M. Jungle belt. October to April.

32. *Neptis hordonia hordonia* Stoll. Jungle belt. October to April.
- F27. 4. *Cyrestis thyodamas thyodamas* Bdv. Jungle belt. October to April.
- F30. 1. *Hypolimnias misippus* L. Common in the rains.
 ♀ v. *alcippoides* But. One taken November 1935.
 ♀ v. *inaria* Cr. Three or four taken.
2. *Hypolimnias bolina* L. Common. June to November.
- F34. 2. *Kallima inachus inachus* Bdv. Jungle belt. Rare.
- F35. 1. *Precis hierta hierta* F. Least common of the genus. Some years absent.
2. *Precis orithya swinhoei* But. Common most of the year.
3. *Precis lemonias lemonias* L. do. do.
4. *Precis almana almana* L. do. do.
5. *Precis atlites* L. Not so common as above.
6. *Precis iphita iphita* Cr. Jungle belt only. November to April.
- F36. 1. *Vanessa cardui* L. Generally appears from February to April. One seen early : 17 October, 1937.
4. *Vanessa canace canace* L. Jungle belt. Flies October to April. Rare.
- F39. 1. *Argynnis hyperbius hyperbius* L. Appears October–November, March–April. Breeds.
- F41. *Cupha erymanthis lotis* Sulz. Jungle belt. October to March.
- F42. *Atella phalanta* Drury. Flies most of the year.
- F43. *Issoria sinha pallida* Evans. Jungle belt. November to April.
- F45. *Cirrochroa tyeche mithila* M. Mr Gill took them, July 1937.
- F47. 3. *Cethosia cyane* Drury. Jungle belt. November to April.
- F49. *Ergolis merione tapestrina* M. Common in the rains.
- F52. *Telchinia violae* Fab. Rare. One taken at Bhikna Thori (Nepal border) 17 March, 1937. Mr Gill took some at Japaha.

ERYCINIDAE

- G1. *Libythea myrra sanguinalis* Fruh. Jungle belt. One taken at Treveni, March 1930.
- G4. *Abisara echerius angulata* M. Jungle belt. Appears November–December.

LYCAENIDAE

- H11. 1. *Castalius rosimon rosimon* F. Appears most of the year.
 2. *Castalius caleta decidia* Hew. Jungle belt. Taken during October to March.
- H12. *Tarucus theophrastus indica*. Flies June till September.
- H13. *Syntarucus plinius* F. Flies June till November.
- H21. *Lycaenopsis puspa gisca* Fruh. Jungle belt. Appears October to March.
Lycaenopsis cardia dilecta M. One stray specimen taken July 1936.
- H23. *Chilades laius laius* Cr. Common most of the year.
- H24. 1. *Zizeeria trochilus putli* Koll. Common June to September.
 3. *Zizeeria gaika* Trimen. Common most of the year. One rare aberration taken 1 April, '37 and sent to Mr D. G. Sevastopulo.
 6. *Zizeeria otis otis* F. Common most of the year.
- H25. 1. *Euchrysops cnejus* F. Appears September to November.
- H26. *Lycaenesthes emolus emolus* God. Rare. Appears October–November.
- H27. *Catachrysops strabo* F. Common most of the year.
- H28. *Lampides boeticus* L. Appears February to April and October–November.
- H29. 1. *Jamides bochus bochus* Cr. Jungle belt. October to December–March.
 5. *Jamides celeno celeno* Cr. Jungle belt. October to December–March.
 9. *Jamides alecto euryssaces* Fruh. Jungle belt. October to December–March.
- H32. 15. *Nacaduba nora nora* Fd. Common June to November.
 16. *Nacaduba dubiosa indica* Evans. Common June to November.
- H44. 1. *Curetis thetis* Drury. Common April to November.
 4. *Curetis bulis* Db. and Hew. Jungle belt only. October to March.
- H45. *Iraota timoleon timoleon* Stoll. One ♂ taken 24–12–38. Mr Gill took 3 (♂ ♂ ♀) at Japaha.
- H49. 34. *Amblypodia alemon* DeN. Jungle belt. Flies October to March.
 39. *Amblypodia amantes amantes* Hew. Jungle belt. Flies October to March.
- H53. *Loxura atymnus*. Jungle belt. One taken October 1932.

- H57. 1. **Spindasis vulcanus vulcanus** M. Common March to November.
 6. **Spindasis ictis ictis** Hew. Common March to November.
 7. **Spindasis elima elima** M. One worn specimen taken July '45.
- H58. **Zesius chrysomallus** Hub. Rare. Only females taken. ♂ taken by Mr Gill at Japaha.
- H60. 1. **Tajuria jangala ravata** M. Jungle belt. One taken November '33.
 18. **Tajuria jehana** M. Rare. One taken only.
 19. **Tajuria cippus cippus** F. Appears March to December.
- H81. **Zeltus etolus** F. Jungle belt. One taken at Bikhna Thori (Nepal border) December '35.
- H84. **Virachola isocrates** F. Taken by Mr Gill at Japaha.
- H85. **Rapala schistacea** M. Jungle belt. Flies March to November.
Rapala melampus Cr. Taken at Bagaha September '34. Mr Gill took some at Japaha.

HESPERIDAE

- I1. **Hasora badra badra** M. One stray specimen. 4 November '40.
Hasora alexis alexis F. Appears April and July to October. Larvae feed on Beech.
- I5. **Badamia exclamationis** Fb. Flies April to November.
- I26. **Caprona ransonnettii saraya** Doh. Jungle belt. One taken March '35.
- I28. **Syrichtus galba** F. Appears April to October.
- I47. **Suastus gremius gremius** F. Appears June till December.
- I57. **Udaspes folus** Cr. Appears April and August to October.
- I58. **Notocrypta curvifascia** Fd. Jungle belt. One taken March '32.
- I59. **Gangara thyrsis clothilda** Hb. One stray specimen, November '32.
- I64. **Matapa aria** M. Appears about September. October–November.
- I66. **Hyarotis adrastus adrastus** Cr. One taken August '32, one seen October '40.
- I88. 1. **Taractrocera maevis sagara** M. Appears July to September.
- I90. 20. **Padraona phellus phellus** Mab. Jungle belt. Treveni one taken November '32.

- I 91. 1. *Astycus augias augias* L. Flies May to October.
Common.
2. *Astycus pythias bambusae* M. July to October.
- I 97. 30. *Baoris sinensis subochracea* M. One doubtful specimen.
31. *Baoris mathias mathias* F. Flies nearly all the year.
32. *Baoris guttatus bada* M. do. do.
33. *Baoris zelleri cinnara* Wallace. One specimen July '29.

The following additional species, taken in Darbhanga District (N. Bihar) are in the collection of Mr. Chas. M. Inglis, F.Z.S., C.M.B.O.U. None of these have been taken in Champaran.

- A 1. *Troides aeacus* Fd. ♀.
A 2. *Tros varuna astorion* Wd. One specimen.
A 4. *Papilio polymnestor polymnestor* Cr. Somewhere in N. Bihar must be the meeting place of this form, and *P. memnon* as I have seen many of the latter.
A 6. *Zetides bathycles chiron*

NYMPHALIDAE

- F23. *Abrota ganga* M. This is interesting as the habitat given of this species is Sikkim-Bhutan only. Evidently a migrant and must have flown over 100 miles to where Mr Inglis took it.

LYCAENIDAE

- H 8. *Spalgis epius epius* Wd. A local species.
H12. *Tarucus callinara* But.
H14. 1. *Azanus ubaldus* Cr. 27-5-'19, 24-6-'19.
2. *Azanus uranus* But. 17-5-'20.
H17. *Neopithecops zalmora* But. One specimen in 1925.
H18. *Everes parrhasius assamica* (?) Tyt. 23-5-'19, 26-4-'20, 24-3-'21.
H25. *Euchrysops pandava pandava* Hors. One specimen.
H46. *Horsfieldia anita dina* Fruh. 2-3-'20, 29-4-'20, 17-11-20.
H59. *Pratapa cleobis* God. 9-5-'20, ♂♂♀